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CASE 2022US

EXPRESS MAIL LABEL NO. EV 671506967 US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Filing Under 35 U.S.C. 371: PCT/US2004/034120 )  
Applicant: John W. Copeland and John A. Parker )  
Application No.: Not Yet Assigned ) Group Art Unit: Unknown  
Filed: Herewith ) Examiner: Unknown  
For: IMPROVED METHOD AND APPARATUS )  
FOR CONCENTRATING A SLURRY )

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

SIR:

Prior to examining the above application, please enter the following amendments.

Upon entry of the following amendments, the pending claims satisfy PCT Art. 33(1)-(4)  
as indicated by the IPEA/US in the IPER issued on September 20, 2005. Pursuant to 37  
CFR 1.49(b), the Applicants request that this application be taken up out of order.